

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR REDUCING DEADLOCK IN FIBRE
CHANNEL FABRICS USING VIRTUAL LANES

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INVENTOR:

STEVEN M. BETKER

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and system for processing fibre channel
10 frames is provided. The method includes, assigning a
virtual lane for a frame based on a hop count for the
frame; determining if the assigned virtual lane has
available credit; and transmitting the frame if credit
is available. The system includes, a fibre channel
15 fabric switch element including a receive port for
receiving fibre channel frames, which includes a look
up table to assign a virtual lane based on a hop count
of the frame; and a transmit port that receives a
primitive with the assigned virtual lane by the receive
20 port and the transmit port includes a credit control
module that determines if an assigned virtual lane can
transmit a frame based on available credit.